

- Group IV: Claims 7-8, drawn to a composition comprising hydrolyzed milk proteins;
- Group V: Claims 9-10, drawn to a composition comprising hydrolyzed animal proteins; and
- Group VI: Claims 11-12, drawn to a composition comprising hydrolyzed collagen-like proteins.

Applicants have elected with traverse, Group I: Claims 1-2, drawn to a composition comprising hydrolyzed proteins from seaweed, for further prosecution.

The Examiner has required restriction based on the assertion that the peptides would provide for different effects and have different functions. Applicants respectfully traverse this reasoning by noting that all claims start with the preamble: A vasodialator. As all of the claimed inventions have the property of vasodilation, the Examiner has merely made a statement that is refuted by the common biological activity of all the claimed invention embodiments. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the Restriction Requirement is improper. Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is requested.

Moreover, the MPEP in §803 states as follows:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without a serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office. Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is requested.

Applicants submit this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

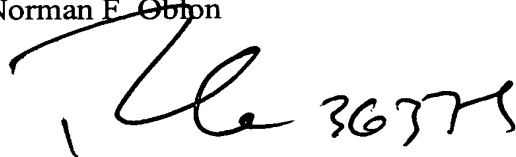
Application No. 10/771,527
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Pereira', followed by the number '36371'.

Daniel Pereira, Ph.D.

— Registration No. 45,518